

Fifth Grade

What story could be more fun to write--and more interesting to read--than the story of one's own life? As the fifth grade students learned more about biographies, they also collected information about themselves to create an amazing autobiography multimedia slideshow! The slideshow contained the following information:

- a. Birth statistics, such as the date, time, place, height and weight.
- b. A family tree using the Microsoft PowerPoint tool SmartArt, going back to great-grandparents.
- c. Descriptions of their first steps or spoken words. This had to include date and details.
- d. First day of school
- e. Three important events from their lives. A time frame and three sentences were part of the requirement.
- f. Choosing one of the above events, find three other events that happened in the world around the same time. Students used the following website for information: www.scopesys.com/anyday
- g. An illustrated collage of images of three or more hobbies.
- h. An illustrated collage of eight or more favorites (such as music, food, books, movies, color, etc.)
- i. What the future holds for you. This slide answered the following questions:
 - i. In the future, I will...
 - ii. The world will be ...
 - iii. I predict that ...
- j. A bibliography slide citing the source of any copyrighted material used for this project.

Students used a variety of tools in Microsoft PowerPoint for this multimedia slideshow. It included backgrounds, graphics, formatted text, slide animations and transitions and audio files. We are now in the process of viewing each student's finished product. Once all have been shared I will send a copy of this project home.

For keyboarding class, students worked on their Typing Time lessons. This quarter students were required to complete five lessons from the keyboarding program. The goal for each fifth grader is to type 30 words per minute or more by the end of the year. They have all made such great strides with their keyboarding skills.

The following technology standards were introduced and developed during this quarter:

NETS•S (National Educational Technology Standards for Students)

1. Creativity and Innovation

Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology. Students:

- a. apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
- b. create original works as a means of personal or group expression.

3. Research and Information Fluency

Students apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information. Students:

- a. plan strategies to guide inquiry
- b. locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media.
- c. evaluate and select information sources and digital tools based on the appropriateness to specific tasks.
- d. process data and report results

4. Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision Making

Students use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources. Students:

- a. identify and define authentic problems and significant questions for investigation.
- b. plan and manage activities to develop a solution or complete a project
- c. collect and analyze data to identify solutions and/or make informed decisions.
- d. use multiple processes and diverse perspectives to explore alternative solutions.

5. Digital Citizenship

Students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior. Students:

- a. advocate and practice safe, legal, and responsible use of information and technology.
- b. exhibit a positive attitude toward using technology that supports collaboration, learning, and productivity.
- c. demonstrate personal responsibility for lifelong learning.
- d. exhibit leadership for digital citizenship.

6. Technology Operations and Concepts

Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems, and operations. Students:

- a. understand and use technology systems.
- b. select and use applications effectively and productively.
- c. Troubleshoot systems and applications
- d. transfer current knowledge to learning of new technologies.

The fifth grade students are doing a wonderful job! They have developed and utilized a variety of technology skills this quarter. I look forward to another quarter full of exploration and discovery of technology.